

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to correct obvious typographical errors. At page 2, lines 7 and 23 and at page 3, line 13, a comma has been inserted between "C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy" and "C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl" in the definition of "X" throughout the Specification to correct a typographical error. The "fluorinated alkenyl" and "fluorinated oxyalkenyl" substituents have been corrected to be C₂-C₁₀, which, as discussed at page 4, lines 3-5 of the Specification, an alkenyl group has from 2 to 10 carbon atoms. No new matter has been added.

The Claims have been amended to correct above typographical errors. A comma has been inserted between "C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy" and "C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl" in the definition of "X" in Claims 1 and 7. The "fluorinated alkenyl" and "fluorinated oxyalkenyl" substituents have been corrected to be C₂-C₁₀ in Claims 1 and 7. A space has been added between "fluorinated" and "alkenyl", between "fluorinated" and "oxyalkyl", and between "fluorinated" and "oxyalkenyl" in Claim 2.

Claim 6 has been amended to be in independent form. No new matter has been added.

Additionally, Claim 1, and dependent Claims 2-5, have been amended to recite a solution of an organic active material and the specified compound. The basis for this can be found at page 3, lines 4-6, and the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8. Claim 9, dependent on Claim 1, has been added to recite specific organic active materials. The basis for this can be found in the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8. Claim 8 has been amended for clarity. The basis for this can be found at page 8, lines 4-12. No new matter has been added.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 2 was objected to because of informalities. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently submitted amendments to Claim 2 have overcome these objections, and respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner has requested clarification with respect to the terms "alkoxy" and "oxyalkyl". The term "alkoxy" refers to a substituent group having a single oxygen at the end of an alkyl group. The substituent is attached via the oxygen. The term "oxyalkyl" refers to an alkyl substituent in which at least one non-terminal CH₂ group has been replaced with

oxygen. For example, $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}_3$ is an alkoxy group and $-(\text{CH}_2)_a-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_b\text{CH}_3$ is an oxyalkyl group.

The term “C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl” has been clarified by the addition of a comma between “C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy” and “C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl”.

The terms “oxyalkenyl” and “fluorinated oxyalkenyl” have been clarified by indicating that they have from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

Applicant respectfully submits that the currently submitted amendments to the claims and the above explanations have overcome these objections, and respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

(1) Kamal et al.

Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kamal et al. (Tetrahedron Letters, Vol 43, No. 41, August 2002, pp. 7353-7355), hereinafter referred to as “Kamal et al.” Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As to Claims 1-5, the claims, as amended, recite a solution of an organic active material and a fluorinated aryl ether having the structure given. Kamal et al. relates to a new synthetic method for forming fluoroalkyl aryl ethers. There is no discussion or suggestion that these ethers can be used as solvents for organic active materials.

As to Claim 6, none of the specific compounds in Claim 6 is disclosed in Kamal et al.

Applicant respectfully submits that the solutions of currently amended claims are neither taught nor suggested by Kamal et al., and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

(2) GB 1230932

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 1230932 to Farbwerke Hoechst A. G., hereinafter referred to as “GB ‘932.” Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

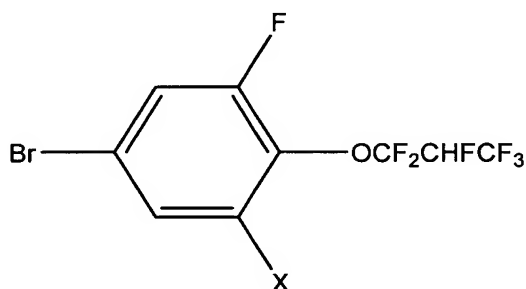
As discussed above, Claims 1-5, as amended, recite a solution of an organic active material and a fluorinated aryl ethers having the structure given. GB ‘932 relates to a new synthetic method for forming tetrafluoroethylphenyl ethers. There is no discussion or suggestion that these ethers can be used as solvents for organic active materials.

Applicant respectfully submits that the currently amended claims are neither taught nor suggested by GB ‘932, and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

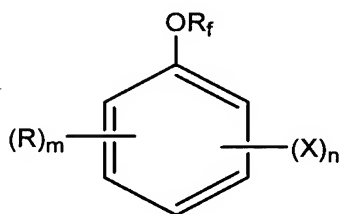
(3) Yasushi et al.

Claims 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yasushi et al. (Patent Abstracts of Japan, publication number 06-293691), hereinafter referred to as “Yasushi et al.” Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner has stated that Yasushi et al. “disclose a compound having the claimed structure which is useful for synthesizing liquid crystal displays....” Applicant respectfully disagrees with this characterization of Yasushi et al. Yasushi et al. relates to a phenylpropyl ether having the formula



where X is H, F, or Cl. Applicant’s fluorinated ary ether, as recited in Claim 7, has the structure



where R is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, or C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl, and m is from 1-5, i.e., m is not zero. Thus, there is no substituent corresponding to Applicant’s “R” on the phenylpropyl ether of Yasushi et al. The substituents of Yasushi et al. are halides or a fluorinated propyl ether, not an alkyl, alkoxy, or oxyalkyl.

Furthermore, the phenylpropyl ether of Yasushi et al. is useful as a raw material for the synthesis of liquid crystals. The compound itself is not used in displays. And there certainly is no discussion or suggestion that the compound of Yasushi et al. could be used as a solvent for solution deposition to form organic active layers in electronic devices.

Applicant respectfully submits that the devices of Claims 7 and 8 are neither taught nor suggested by Yasushi et al., and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over GB '932. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

With respect to Claim 1, as stated above, there is no discussion or suggestion that the compounds of GB '932 can be used as solvents for organic active materials.


With respect to Claim 6, the Examiner points out that the compound disclosed in GB '932 is the *ortho* isomer of sec-butyl-phenol- $\alpha,\alpha,\beta,\beta$ -tetrafluoroethyl ether, and one of the compounds of Claim 6 is the *para* isomer. The Examiner's position is that it would have been obvious to modify the *ortho* compound to arrive at Applicant's *para* compound. Applicant respectfully disagrees. It is stated in GB '932 that these compounds are useful for the synthesis of dyes and plant protective agents (presumably referring to *biological* plants). These chemical fields are highly unpredictable and small changes in compounds can have dramatic effects, and even render the compounds inactive. It is respectfully submitted that it would not be obvious to try different positional isomers based on the disclosure of GB '932, and more importantly, obvious to try is not obvious to invent.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1 and 6 are neither taught nor suggested by GB '932, and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the above referenced application is in condition for allowance and a notice of allowance is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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